



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

June 19, 2001

**OFFICE OF
ENFORCEMENT AND
COMPLIANCE ASSURANCE**

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Final Fiscal Year 2002/2003 Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance
Memorandum of Agreement Guidance

FROM: Sylvia K. Lowrance /s/
Acting Assistant Administrator

TO: Deputy Regional Administrators
State Environmental Commissioners
Regional Counsel
Regional Enforcement Division Directors
Regional Enforcement Coordinators

This memorandum provides you with the final FY 2002/2003 Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance (OECA) Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) Guidance, which sets forth program direction and priorities for the national enforcement and compliance program for the next two years. Included with this correspondence are the descriptions of the proposed priorities, the MOA guidance and all of the attachments including the inspection projection forms, FTE resource charts, and the recently revised description of the core program elements.

I want to thank everyone that reviewed the draft MOA guidance and provided comments and suggestions. As in the past, OECA and the regional offices continued the effort to more effectively involve state and tribal regulatory partners and interested stakeholders in the establishment of national priorities and the direction of the national program. I particularly appreciate the efforts made by you and your staff to provide comments within the very short comment period that was established. This final document does reflect adjustments based on your comments. A response to comments document will be sent out under a separate cover in the near future.

As you know, all of the national priorities initiated in the FY 2000/2001 planning cycle, with the exception of the metal services sector, are being continued. It is hoped that this continuity will provide the opportunity to complete needed activities designed to reduce environmental risk and improve compliance. The guidance requests the regions to concisely describe the actions to be undertaken in support of the national priorities, provide brief descriptions of regional priorities and note specific exceptions to core enforcement or compliance

assurance program requirements. As in past years, regions will be expected to complete and submit charts delineating staffing, inspection and investigation commitments. Also, please note that OECA is currently revising the MOA priority measures on which the regions are to report to ensure that they provide consistent data. Guidance on these revised measures will be provided this summer.

While the Guidance is used primarily to develop the Regional MOAs, it is also used to initiate discussions with states about the use of program grant funds and work planning for FY 2002-2003. We expect these discussions will include a review of EPA and state priorities, with the goal of developing the best combination of those priorities. Issues raised by states about the regional/state phase of the planning process need to be examined through an effort that OECA will convene in the near future.

Regional MOAs are due to Headquarters by September 4, 2001. When submitting your MOA, please provide a hard copy to Frederick F. Stiehl, Director, Enforcement Planning, Targeting and Data Division, United States Environmental Protection Agency, Ariel Rios Building, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington D.C. 20460. In addition, please submit an electronic version to (stiehl.frederick@epa.gov).

Attachments

cc: Assistant Administrators
OECA Office Directors
Environmental Enforcement Section Chief, Department of Justice
State Media Associations
Regional MOA Coordinators